

West Jefferson Medical Center Community Report

December 2010

Funded by WJ Hospital Foundation and Entergy Community Cancer Program Hosts Pink Tea



Irma Thomas

In this community, celebrations are a way of life. In addition to the traditional toasts extended to brides and grooms, we salute gumbo royalty, the Orange Festival kings and queens, the sovereigns of Mardi Gras

and youth of homecoming courts. During October (Breast Cancer Awareness Month), the annual Pink Tea, thanks to the generous support of the West Jefferson Hospital Foundation and a charitable donation from Entergy, presents an opportunity to recognize and proffer a toast to breast cancer survivors. These are the women we saluted.

This year, the tea was held at Timberlane Country Club in an open, airy banquet hall overlooking the golf course on a bright, sunny afternoon. The weather could not have been more perfect. From the moment the ladies started to arrive in their many shades of pink, non-stop chatter and squeals

of delight could be heard as old friendships were renewed and new relationships blossomed. Foundation President Garey Alimia welcomed our many guests, some 180 ladies strong.

Bathed in a sea of pink accoutrements, guests were treated to the musical sounds of Irma Thomas, Soul Queen of New Orleans. Making her third appearance at the annual event, Irma regaled the group with selections from her catalogue of favorites. Waving white dinner napkins, the crowd segued into an impromptu "Second Line" at the close of her set which in turn ignited a display of dancing skills worthy of an episode of "So You Think You Can Dance." Chief Administrative Officer Angela Greener thanked Irma on behalf of the hospital family.

Pink Tea program participants included co-emcees Taslin Alfonzo and Jennifer Steel, Reverend Barbara Duke of WJ Spiritual Care, CNO Adonna Lowe, Christina Mamolo of the West Jeff Fitness Centers who offered a relaxation exercise, Vanessa Batson of the Eldon Majoue Oncology Nursing Unit,

Entergy's Mary Fay Legnon, Peggy Bourgeois of the HCIA and community volunteer Glynis Silva who joined the Pink Tea committee in the awarding of door prizes. Hospital departments contributing to making the annual luncheon a success included Nursing Administration, Radiation Therapy, Women's Imaging, the Oncology Unit, Spiritual Care, Community Relations and Marketing, and Rehab Care and Rehab Connection. Cheryl Fourcade of the American Cancer Society offered an icebreaker game and the Auxiliary, Family Birth Place and The Family Doctors helped make the Pink Tea special.

by Benola Cooper, RN, MA



2010 Pink Tea

Families of Patients in Critical Care Welcomed to Nearby Lodging Hospital Foundation, Donors Make Care House a Reality



WJMC Care House

Conveniently located near West Jefferson Medical Center, the Care House is a complimentary service for families whose loved ones are being treated in critical care units at West Jefferson.

The Care House is a service made possible by the West Jefferson Hospital Foundation and generous community

donors. The facility is supported by the Hospital Foundation and ongoing donations have helped to make the short-stay lodging a reality.

"Since opening, several families have stayed in the Care House," says registered nurse Patty Orgeron of Guest Services. There have been times when our lodging, which accommodates up to three families, was totally full. "Families have expressed their sincere gratitude for the lodging. They say it's a quiet refuge, near their loved ones in a time of need."

The lodging is coordinated by Guest Services. To support the Care House, the West Jefferson Hospital Foundation accepts donations. To learn more, email wjmcfoundation@yahoo.com or call (504) 349-6663.

by Jennifer Steel, RN



To make a Donation to the
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(click on Foundation)
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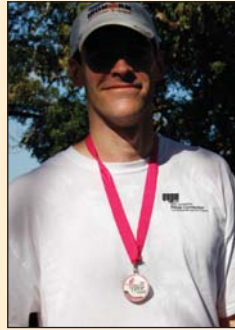
Schnell's Restaurant & Bar

Sun Ray Grill

The Backyard Chef

Timberlane Country Club

West Jeff Rehab Connection, Women's Imaging at the Race for A Cure Susan G. Komen Making A Difference



Susan G. Komen Race
for the Cure Finisher,
Robbie Hughes

Bethany Vincent

West Jefferson Medical Center's Rehab Connection (WJRC) participated in the 2010 Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure on Sat., October 23. Robbie Hughes of West Jefferson Rehab Connection ran in the Race for the Cure and received a medallion as one of the first 5K finishers. Congratulations, Robbie! Represented by Shanna Ferguson, LOTR, CLT and Bethany Vincent, WJRC provided community education materials regarding breast cancer related Lymphedema and the programs offered through the outpatient rehab department to address this condition and its

symptoms. WJRC organized a team with more than 25 members this year, helping to raise funds for the local affiliate of the Komen Foundation. 75% of the funds raised will be used to support local research and community programs for the breast cancer survivor population such as the Lymphedema Management and Education Program offered at WJRC. The Komen Foundation has awarded WJRC with a grant for the seventh year in a row. This year's grant offers financial assistance for up to \$500 for qualifying breast cancer survivors enrolled in the WJ Lymphedema Management and Education Program for the purchase of compression materials.

For more information about breast cancer related lymphedema and the Lymphedema Management and Education Program, please call (504) 349-6140.

by Bethany Bourgeois Vincent

Teams of Volunteers, Educators WJMC a Sponsor of Jeff Parish Senior Expo at Alario Center

Dozens of West Jefferson Medical Center employees and volunteers teamed up to help greet and assist thousands of senior citizens at the Jefferson Parish Senior Expo. The event was held on October 20 at the Alario Center and West Jefferson Medical Center was proud to be one of the major sponsors. Donned in costumes or fall colors, members of the hospital family provided information on the many services West Jeff provides including: the Community Cancer Program, the Rehab Unit and Rehab Connection, the Auxiliary and Volunteer Services, Diabetes Services, Cardiac Services, Emergency Medical Services, Orthopedics, the Stroke Unit, Family Doctors and Endoscopy. Health education and screenings were also offered including DiabetesAware, HeartAware and Blood Pressure. In addition, health materials were offered in English, Spanish and Vietnamese. Taslin Alfonzo of West Jeff joined Nicondra Norwood of Fox 8 to emcee the entertainment presented by the Senior Expo and Van Lam of Cardiac Services took to the stage to extend a welcome in Vietnamese to those attending the opening ceremonies. WJ CEO, Nancy Cassagne, is one of the chairpersons of the annual event, and Jennifer Steel, Rudy Sampey and Van Lam served on the 2010 Jefferson Parish Senior Expo Committee.

by Jennifer Steel, RN

"Going to the Hospital is Fun" Family Fest Kid Zone Pleases Families, Children



Kid Zone, Fun For All

Jim Howell Photography

Families arriving October 30 at the West Jeff Family Festival found many activities to entertain and please family members of all ages. There were exciting rides and games such as the Mechanical Bull, an Obstacle Course, a Speed Pitch, the Pumpkin Toss, a tiny tot's Duck Pond, a Basketball Toss, a huge Rock Climbing Wall and the multi-person Euro Bungee.

Laborie's Budget Saver provided basketballs for the Basketball Toss where both children and adults shared in the excitement, winning over 370 basketballs.

Outback Steakhouse, Wal-mart, Southern Eagle, the New Orleans Hornets, Holiday Inn New Orleans, Regan Cheramie Salon, the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office, Northrop Grumman and EM Broidery provided great prizes used in the Kid Zone. In the Speed Pitch, adults and children competed in their categories for the fastest pitch of the hour. More than 25 prizes were

awarded including a bright orange 20-inch Bike showcased earlier on WDSU-TV by LaTonya Norton, New Orleans Hornets team signed basketballs and gift certificates.

Children had their faces painted and enjoyed goodies such as snow cones, cotton candy and popcorn.

Rudy Sampey, Foundation board member, noted, "The West Jeff Hospital Foundation hosted the recent Family Festival as a fundraiser for pediatric services. No Medical Center funds were used in this effort."

The JERUSALEM Clown Unit assembled balloons animals next to the Kid Zone. the Children's Pumpkin Patch Party. This children's area was donated in memory of the late Dr. Benny and Micki



Anette Photography

Goldman by their loved ones. Fresh fruit and candy were served courtesy of Fantastic Sams with toys donated by Northrop Grumman.

by Anette
Cheramie

See more Festival Photos at wjmc.org



Costumed Officials and Volunteers Gather for Festival Opening!

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 In Memory of Dr. Benny and
 Micki Goldman

West Jefferson Hospital Foundation Presented Event Family Festival Community Outreach, Fundraiser for Pediatrics



Nancy Cassagne, WJMC
 CEO and Garey Alimia,
 WJH Foundation President

Thousands showed up on a gorgeous, sunny day to help make the *West Jeff Family Festival* a success. The fundraiser, sponsored by the West Jeff Hospital Foundation, raised funds and

awareness for pediatric services and was a community outreach for families.

All of it was made possible by the classic car and motorcycle show (140 entries), the Kid Zone, the beverage tents and the draw of the amazing bands and, of course, the Hospital Foundation. August Rush, Burgundy, The Top Cats and Rockin' Dopsie & the Zydeco Twisters kept the crowds dancing and singing throughout the entire day and evening. Palates were pleased by the more than 20 food vendors which came together to earn multiple

'thumbs ups'.

The Halloween weekend bash attracted plenty of ghouls and goblins for the two costume contests, as well as the 50/50 raffle and the door prize: an autographed football by Saints player, Jonathan Vilma.

Melissa Dugas was the lucky winner of the football. Dugas, her husband and two children were born at West Jeff and her mother-in-law is a volunteer at the hospital.

The "Best of Show" winner of the classic car show was JoePete Denicola. He sported his pristine 1957 turquoise, Belair Convertible Chevrolet. Congratulations to all our Winners!

by Taslin Alfonzo



Car Show "Best of Show"